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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,605	07/25/2000	Masao Akimoto	P19818	7588
7055	7590	10/06/2003	EXAMINER	
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			MOEZZI, MANZAR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	
DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/624,605	AKIMOTO ET AL.	
Period for Reply	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mahmanzar Moezzi	2142	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
 Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2000.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>5</u>	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____. 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toyoda et al. Patent No. 5,881,233 in view of Dobbins et al Patent No. 5,751,971.

3. In regards to claim 1, an error informing apparatus comprising:

Toyoda et al. teaches an interface, which connects to a computer network;(Col. 5, lines 26-54)

communication means for performing communications via said computer network;(Col. 5, lines 51-54)

error detecting means for detecting an error occurred in said communications; (Col. 7, lines 47-52) and

Toyoda et al. does not specifically teach error informing means, when said error is detected by said error detecting means, for putting information of said error into a packet to be transmitted onto said computer network. However, Dobbins et al teaches address validation, and detecting error in packets, and issuing ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol) control message back to the source. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include means for permitting to detect errors. The motivation would be to allow error free network communication.

4. In regards to claim 2, Toyoda-Dobbins teaches an error informing apparatus comprising: format converting means for converting image data to a format of e-mail; (Toyoda, Col. 6, lines 56-63)

e-mail transmitting means for transmitting image data, which is converted to said format of e-mail, to a destination via a computer network;(Toyoda, Col. 6, lines 27-46)

error detecting means for detecting an error of said e-mail generated when transmitting said e-mail; (Toyoda, Col. 7, lines 46-50)and

error informing means, when said error is detected by said error detecting means, for putting information of said error into a packet to be transmitted onto said computer network. (Dobbins, Col. 10, lines 18-24)

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5. In regards to claim 3, Toyoda-Dobbins teaches an error informing apparatus comprising: e-mail receiving means for receiving image data, which is converted to a format of e-mail, via a computer network; (Toyoda, Col. 6, lines 28-33) format converting means for converting received e-mail to original image data; (Toyoda Col. 7, lines 5-52)

error detecting means for detecting an error generated when receiving said e-mail; (Toyoda Col. 7, lines 5-52)

and

error informing means, when said error is detected by said error detecting means, for putting information of said error into a packet to be transmitted onto said computer network.

(Is same as claim 1, therefore is rejected based on the same rationale as claim 1)

6. In regards to claim 4, Toyoda-Dobbins further teaches, error informing apparatus described in claim 1, wherein said packet is an ICMP packet (Dobbins, Col. 10, lines 18-24)

7. In regards to claim 5, Toyoda-Dobbins further teaches the error informing apparatus described in claim 1, wherein information of error is a name of a program where the error has generated and a row number. (Dobbins, Col. 4, lines 30-41, Col. 10, lines 18-25)

8. In regards to claim 6, Toyoda-Dobbins further teaches an electronic apparatus having the error informing apparatus. (Toyoda, Col. 6, lines 56-63)

9. In regards to claims 7, 8 & 9, they are the methods of claims 1-3 respectively and therefore, are rejected based on the same rational as rejecting claims 1-3 above.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent No. 5844969, US Patent No. 5854694, US Patent No. 5844691, US Patent No. 5838685, US Patent No. 5841966.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahmanzar Moezzi whose telephone number is (703) 305-0705. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark R Powell can be reached on (703) 305-9703. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

September 29, 2003


JASON CARBONE
AU:2142